

I CLAIM:

1. A method of treating healed wounds to prevent or reduce scarring or to improve the appearance of scars comprising: applying onto a healed wound a composition comprising a fluid, film-forming carrier, and hardening the carrier into a tangible membrane which can be peeled off the skin either at completion of treatment or to apply a subsequent dose of the composition, said tangible membrane juxtaposed to the healed wound, thereby preventing or reducing scarring or improving the appearance of a scar.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said composition includes an additional active ingredient active in preventing or reducing scarring or improving the appearance of a scar.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said active ingredient comprises a topically active steroid, silicone gel, an enzyme, a vitamin or a mixture of two or more of said active ingredients.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein said topically active steroid is a corticosteroid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein said active ingredient comprises a mixture of a topically active steroid and a silicone gel.

6. The method of claim 3, wherein the vitamin is Vitamin E.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said film-forming carrier comprises a cellulosic derivative.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said cellulosic derivative comprises nitrocellulose or methyl cellulose.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said film-forming carrier comprises a silicone resin.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein said film-forming carrier comprises a silicone elastomer.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein said film-forming carrier comprises a polyvinyl alcohol.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein said composition comprises a gel or a rubber.

13. The method of claim 3, wherein the film-forming carrier comprises nitrocellulose and the active ingredient comprises a mixture of a silicone gel, Vitamin E and hydrocortisone.

5 14. The method of claim 3, wherein the enzyme comprises collagenase.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein said healed wound comprises a hypertrophic scar.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein said healed wound is formed after surgery.

10 17. The method of claim 1, wherein said healed wound is formed after accidental trauma.